

Volume 9, Issue 1, Spring 2018

Serenity Inns, Inc.

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Alumni House,

Helping Men Move Toward Residential Independence

Since June 2016 when Serenity Inns purchased a 9-unit apartment building (seven 2-bedroom and two 1-bedroom units) at 832 N. 25th Street in Milwaukee, volunteers have been engaged in cleaning, remodeling and decorating the building. At this time, most of the work has been done on all but the last 2 units. Serenity Inn graduates are living in 3 of the furnished units, and two more grads will move in at the end of March. In addition, the House Manager occupies one of the one-bedroom units. Market tenants still occupy two of the remaining apartments.

The **goal of Alumni House** is to give Serenity Inn graduates a safe, sober, quiet living environment for a year—or as long as 18 months--to support their recovery. Tenants have to be employed, maintain their units to an agreed-upon standard and be subject to random drug and alcohol testing. Tenants pay a security deposit and rent that includes all utilities.

Before Alumni House, SI graduates often left the Inn with few housing options open to them due in part to prior evictions, to a record of drug or fire arms related convictions, or to other issues that did not endear them to prospective landlords. Living at AH for a year to a year and a half gives the men the opportunity to build a credit history that will give them a far better chance of signing a lease in a safe, desirable neighborhood.

In the spirit of the dinner fellowship at Serenity Inn, the staff at Alumni House offers **Tuesdays with the Alums** when volunteers bring dinner for the tenants and enjoy the meal and fellowship with the men in Unit 9, the common gathering space. To volunteer, contact Jason Dobson at si.jason@att.net, 414-803-1399.

SERENATIVE

Alumni House (continued)



Before (volunteer removing old cabinets)



After
(new cabinets, sink,
counter tops, range hood & floor)

If you are interested in **joining the volunteers** who will be renovating the last two apartments, plus several other updates in the building that were put on hold, contact Bill Buehler at billbuehler@cs.com, 414-630-8989.

The Outpatient Program

The Outpatient Program meets at Redeemer Lutheran Church at 19th & Wisconsin Avenue 3 mornings each week, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The program takes men on the Waiting List to enter Serenity Inn and others who are in various states of recovery, including men and women referred by the Milwaukee Drug Court.

The individuals meet individually and in small groups with a Substance Abuse Counselor. For more information about Serenity Inns Outpatient Program contact Jason Dobson, Substance Abuse Counselor at si.jason@att.net or (414) 873-5474.

Graduates at Work



Friends of Serenity Inn often ask, "How is (<u>Graduate's Name</u>) doing?" Here is an update on some of our graduates:



Charon S. - Forklift Driver/ Supervisor



Clarence M. -Assistant Service Manager



Dallas F. -General Labor



Jason S. -Electrician



Joe P. - Warehouse Distribution



Jonathan K. -Electrician



Josh S. -Management



Phil J. -Daycare Driver



Rodney H. -Custodian



Sam H. -Electrician



Tyler V. -Cook

Serenity Inns' 8th Annual Celebration of Recovery



Mike Strehlow will be MC

Join us for the **Celebration of Recovery on April 19, 2018** at the Italian Community Center. The evening begins with fellowship at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner and will include a silent auction, a message from a resident and a graduate as well as recognition of those who have been so vital to the success of the program over these 14 years. Mike Strehlow of Channel 58 will be the Master of Ceremony.

Contact Lorraine Buehler at:





...TO ATTEND, (\$75/person)

...TO PURCHASE DINNER FOR A RESIDENT OR A GRADUATE. (\$75)

...TO DONATE AN ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION by April 1.

Address:

Mission Statement

To provide structured housing and rehabilitative services in an environment of support and accountability that will give addicted men the opportunity to rebuild their lives.

Newsletter Staff

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